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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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REPORT NO.

442

TOPIC Air Force Training Fields

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 17 October 1951

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 26 November 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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25X1 Anklam Airfield.

1. On 6 October 1951, jet aircraft engaged in target practice at Anklam airfield. Only single shots were fired from altitudes of 50 to 80 meters. No other changes were observed. (1)

25X1 Gadow-Rossow Bombing Range.

2. On the morning of 17 September, 12 swept-back jet fighters fired at ground targets at the Schweinrich troop training grounds. The target area was in the southeastern corner of Lake Branse. The aircraft attacked the target individually one following the other from an altitude of about 1,000 meters. They approached the target from the south in a dive and fired a short burst. Each plane made three passes.
3. On 19 September, six jet bombers practiced bombing at a target area south of Schweinrich. The approach was made in level flight at an estimated altitude of 3,000 to 4,000 meters. Each plane dropped one bomb. A cloud caused by the explosion was about thirty meters high. The same practice bombing run was made by five jet bombers on 21 September.

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4. At 11 a.m. on 5 October, three jet bombers flying in formation approached the Gadow-Rossow bombing range. The weather was clear and the planes flew at an estimated altitude of 2,500 to 3,000 meters. Bombs were dropped. There was no diving or low level attack practice nor did the planes fire any weapons when the bombs were dropped. The bombs were probably of large size because their detonations were heard in Wittstock. No night bombing was observed.

Klopzow Firing Range.

5. Every day between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. from 17 to 22 September, firing was practiced by 5 to 7 swept-back jet fighters. A formation of nine planes flew at an estimated altitude of 500 meters. They approached over Raggentin and turned south over the Mueritz River. The entire area was guarded by Soviet patrols during the day and night. Between 2 and 5 p.m. on 17 October, firing by swept-back jet

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fighters was observed over Klopzow firing range. The aircraft approached from the southeast at an altitude of about 500 meters. They attacked the target area in formations of four or five planes. (3)

25X1 Kummersdorf and Markendorf Bombing Ranges.

6. Between 9 a.m. and noon on 12 October, about 100 single-engine aircraft flying in squadrons of nine aircraft approached from the direction of Justerbog-Altes Lager. The squadrons flew at intervals of about 200 meters over Luckenwalde. Some planes headed toward Markendorf bombing range and the others toward Kummersdorf bombing range where the aircraft dropped their bombs. The concussion from the explosions caused the windows in Luckenwalde to vibrate. (4)

25X1 Comments.

- (1) The landing field of Anklam airfield is being used as a firing range by the fighter regiment stationed in Peenemuende. Most of the practice runs are made by gliding toward the ground targets.
- (2) The training field is used as a bombing range by the bomber regiment in Oranienburg and as a firing range by the fighter regiment in Wittstock. It is believed that the practice runs are frequently combined with ground exercises at the Schweinrich troop training grounds.
- (3) This training field belongs to Laerz airfield and is used by both fighter regiments stationed in Laerz.
- (4) The two bombing ranges are mainly used by the bomber regiments stationed in Justerbog and by all ground attack regiments.

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